

Adm - 13.1 MFR
~~SECRET~~

Exec 1
1203

28 February 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Deputy Director
for Science and Technology

SUBJECT: Dr. Hall's Discussion of Navy Need for U-2

Don -

1. When Al Hall was at Headquarters on 25 February, discussing tactical intelligence matters with the Director and Roger Jones of OMB, he raised the subject of the Navy and its need for a U-2, and the minutes of the meeting on this point follow:

"Dr. Hall reported discussions were under way concerning an ocean surveillance aircraft (ELINT and COMINT) which the Navy could use for 6th Fleet support. He said a CIA U-2 was a possibility but that General Bevan had only four U-2's, of which one was on loan to SAC, and that General Bevan had indicated he would be "more comfortable" if he had five aircraft. Question was being raised as to whether other means of overhead coverage of Cuba could provide the necessary photo quality and enable release of a U-2. If no U-2 can be made available the Navy would be encouraged to find another platform which could maintain high altitude coverage over the fleet for long time periods. Dr. Hall said the project was still experimental in nature and not an approved program package. In response to questions he indicated the U-2 might base in [redacted] but the DCI noted that possible political problems might loom large. Mr. Tweedy thought [redacted] would pose no problems. Mr. Tweedy will arrange a follow-through on the U-2 problem posed by Dr. Hall."

2. Beyond this brief mention, I am of course not familiar with what General Bevan has discussed with Dr. Hall and thus suggest you pursue the matter, as seems appropriate. I would only note that if a substitute for U-2 coverage of Cuba seems a possibility, we would presumably want to get COMIREX in the act. Would you just let me know how you plan to proceed.

Navy review(s) completed.

DD/S&T

Bronson Tweedy
D/DCI/NIPE

FILE COPY

~~SECRET~~

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification